

CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

- 5 1. An information system, comprising:
 a set of access subsystems each for use in
 accessing a persistent store in the information
 system;
 transaction analyzer that determines a priority
10 metric for an incoming access transaction to the
 persistent store such that the priority metric
 indicates which of the access subsystems is to be
 used when performing the incoming access transaction.
- 15 2. The information system of claim 1, wherein the
 transaction analyzer determines the priority metric
 by determining a frequency of occurrence for the
 incoming access transaction.
- 20 3. The information system of claim 1, wherein the
 transaction analyzer determines the priority metric
 by determining a frequency of access of a database
 table referenced in the incoming access transaction.
- 25 4. The information system of claim 1, wherein the
 transaction analyzer determines the priority metric
 by determining a dollar cost associated with the
 incoming access transaction.
- 30 5. The information system of claim 1, wherein the
 transaction analyzer determines the priority metric
 by determining a computational complexity associated
 with performing the incoming access transaction.

6. The information system of claim 5, wherein the computational complexity is indicated by a number of database tables in the persistent store that are
5 referenced by the incoming access transaction.

7. The information system of claim 5, wherein the computational complexity is indicated by a number of field matches specified in the incoming access
10 transaction to database tables in the persistent store.

8. The information system of claim 1, wherein the transaction analyzer determines the priority metric
15 in response to a set of query constraints contained in the incoming access transaction.

9. The information system of claim 8, wherein the priority metric is based on a size of a database
20 table in the persistent store to which the query constraints are to be applied.

10. A method for priority analysis of access transactions in an information system, comprising the
25 steps of:

determining a priority metric for an incoming access transaction to a persistent store in the information system;

30 selecting which of a set of access subsystems is to be used when performing the incoming access transaction in response to the priority metric.

11. The method of claim 10, wherein the step of

determining the priority metric includes the step of determining a frequency of occurrence for the incoming access transaction.

- 5 12. The method of claim 10, wherein the step of determining the priority metric includes the step of determining a frequency of access of a database table referenced in the incoming access transaction.
- 10 13. The method of claim 10, wherein the step of determining the priority metric includes the step of determining a dollar cost associated with the incoming access transaction.
- 15 14. The method of claim 10, wherein the step of determining the priority metric includes the step of determining a computational complexity associated with performing the incoming access transaction.
- 20 15. The method of claim 14, wherein the computational complexity is indicated by a number of database tables in the persistent store that are referenced by the incoming access transaction.
- 25 16. The method of claim 14, wherein the computational complexity is indicated by a number of field matches specified in the incoming access transaction to database tables in the persistent store.
- 30 17. The method of claim 10, wherein the step of determining the priority metric includes the step of determining the priority metric in response to a set

of query constraints contained in the incoming access transaction.

18. The information system of claim 17, wherein the
5 step of determining the priority metric includes the
step of determining a size of a database table in the
persistent store to which the query constraints are
to be applied.